

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PEPR, PINT, DA, NO
SUBJECT: OSLO VISIT OF DANISH PRIME MINISTER JORGENSEN MAY 16-19

1. DANISH PREMIER ANKER JORGENSEN AND HIS WIFE ACCOMPANIED BY A SMALL GROUP OF DANISH OFFICIALS VISITED OSLO MAY 16-19. THE VISIT WAS LARGELY PROTOCOLARY AND NEIGHBORLY SOCIALIZING AND OFFERED NORWEGIAN PRIME MINISTER NORDLI AN OPPORTUNITY TO HOST HIS DANISH COLLEAGUE ON NORWAY'S NATIONAL DAY MAY 17TH. JORGENSEN SCHEDULE INCLUDED POLITICAL DISCUSSIONS WITH NORDLI AND OTHER MEMBERS OF THE NORWEGIAN GOVERNMENT ON MAY 18, AN AUDIENCE WITH KING OLAV ON THE SAME DAY, A NORWEGIAN DINNER ON MAY 16 AND A RETURN DINNER MAY 18. THE SUBSTANTIVE CONVERSATIONS COVERED FISHING PROBLEMS AND DELIVERY OF NATURAL GAS AS WELL AS THE UPCOMING WASHINGTON SUMMIT, THE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT ON DISARMAMENT AT THE UN AND PRESIDENT KEKKONEN'S NUCLEAR FREE ZONE PROPOSAL (SEE OSLO 2469).

2. ACCORDING TO MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS SOURCES WHO SAT IN ON MOST OF THE CONVERSATIONS, THE TWO PRIME MINISTERS GATHERED FOR LARGELY PRO FORMA EXCHANGES. JORGENSEN REVIEWED THE POLITICAL SITUATION IN DENMARK AND DENIED ANY RUMORS OF
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ELECTIONS. NORDLI ALSO REVIEWED THE POLITICAL SITUATION IN NORWAY AND BOTH EXCHANGED VIEWS ON THE INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC SITUATION IN RATHER GENERAL TERMS AND EXPRESSED WISHES FOR GREATER ECONOMIC COOPERATION PARTICULARLY IN THE NORTH-SOUTH FIELD. ON THE SUMMIT, NORDLI SAID THAT HIS GOVERNMENT WOULD HAVE NO GREAT DIFFICULTIES IN WORKING TOWARDS FULFILLMENT OF NATO'S LONG-TERM INITIATIVES PROGRAM

WHILE JORGENSEN SAID THAT FOR ECONOMIC REASONS, THE DANES FORESAW CONSIDERABLE DIFFICULTY IN DOING SO. BOTH MINISTERS AGREED TO DEAL VERY QUIETLY WITH PRESIDENT KEKKONEN'S LATEST VERSION OF HIS NUCLEAR FREE ZONE PLAN, IN ORDER TO AVOID GIVING ANY APPEARANCE OF NORWAY AND DENMARK GANGING UP ON HIM WITH GENERALLY NEGATIVE REACTIONS TO THE STOCKHOLM PROPOSAL.

3. COMMENT: THERE SEEMS LITTLE QUESTION THAT JORGENSEN'S VISIT TO OSLO FELL INTO THE CATEGORY OF FRIENDLY VISIT TO CONGENIAL NEIGHBORS RATHER THAN MEANINGFUL EXCHANGES ON SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES. THE TWO COUNTRIES HAVE NO MAJOR OUTSTANDING PROBLEMS AND THEIR POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC SITUATIONS ARE WELL KNOWN TO EACH OTHER. FROM ALL REPORTS A GOOD TIME WAS HAD BY ALL.
LERNER

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